John Carter Brown.
Harold Brown.

Englands

VVAY TO VVIN

Wealth, and to employ Ships and Marriners:

OR,

A plaine deſcription what great profite, it will bring vnto the Common-wealth of *England*, by the Erecting, Building, and aduenturing of Buſſes, to Sea, a fiſhing.

With a true Relation of the ineſtimable wealth that is yearely taken out of his Maieſties Seas, by the Hollanders, by their great numbers of *Buſſes, Pinkes, and Line-boates:*

AND ALSO

A diſcourſe of the Sea-coaſt Townes of Englande, and the moſt fit and commodious places, and Harbours that wee haue for Buſſes, and of the ſmall number of our Fiſhermen, and alſo the true valuation, and whole charge, of Building, and Furniſhing, to Sea, Buſſes, and Pinks, *after the Holland manner.*

By *Tobias Gentleman*, Fiſherman and Marriner.

LONDON
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RPJCB

TO THE RIGHT NOBLE, LEARNED, AND TRVELY HONORABLE, HENRY, Lord HOWARD, Earle of Northhampton, Baron of *Marnhill*, Constable of the Castle of *Douer*, Lord Warden, Chancellour and Admirall of the Cinque Ports, Lord Priuy Seale, Knight of the most Noble Order of the Garter, and one of his Maiesties most Honourable Priuy Councell.

RIGHT HONOVRABLE,

Seeing that by Nature our Country challengeth a greater intereſt in vs, then our Parents, Friends, or Children can, and that we ought for preſeruation thereof, oppoſe our liues vnto the greateſt dangers: It is

the part of euery Natiue to endeauor ſomething to the aduancement and profite thereof, and not to affect it, for that wee poſſeſſe in it, but to loue it for it ſelfe, as being the common Mother and Nouriſher of vs all. For mine owne part, albeit my ſhort ſadome can compaſſe no ſuch great deſigne as I deſire, yet from a willing minde (as hee that offerd his hands full of water to great Artaxerxes) I am bold to preſent this proiect of my honeſt and homely labours, beſeeching your L. whoſe vertues haue truely enobled you, to take the ſame into your protection: And prefer it to the veiw of our moſt Royall Soueraigne, recommending the good effecting thereof to his gracious fauor and furtherance. Doubtleſſe your actions and endeauours hauing

all

all bene full of virtue and goodneſſe, are not the leaſt preuailing motiues whereby his Maieſty hath ſo endeered you vnto him. In this then you ſhall not thinke your ſelfe diſparaged, the matter being both honeſt and commendable, and in true valew of as great ſubſtance, as the offer of Sebaſtian Cabota, *to King* Henry *the ſeuenth, for the diſcouery of the Weſt Indies.*

Humbly at your Lordſhips commandement,

Tobias Gentleman.

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ENGLANDS WAY TO WIN WEALTH, AND TO IMploy *Ships and Marriners.*

NOble *Brittaines*, for as much as it hath pleaſed the Almighty God to make vs a happy Nation, by bleſſing and enriching this Noble Kingdome with the ſweete

dew of his heauenly word, truely and plentifully Preached amongſt vs; and alſo in cytuating our Country in a moſt wholeſom Clymate, & ſtored with many rich & pleaſant Treaſures for our benefite, which alſo yeeldeth in aboundance all things neceſſary, ſo that wee doe not onely excel other Nations in ſtrength & courage, but alſo all other Kingdomes far remote are by our Engliſh cõmodities releiued & cheriſhed. It ſeemeth that the wiſedome of our gracious God, hath reſerued vs as ſome pretious gemme vnto himſelfe, in inuironing our Country with the plenteous Ocean Sea, & diuiding of vs frõ the whole Continent of the reſt of the inferiour world, by our rich and commodious Element of water, which in due ſeaſons yeeldeth to vs in aboundance. For although our Champion Soile, by the dilligence of the Husbandman, be plentifull vnto vs: yet doth theſe watry Regions and Dominions yeeld yearely, great variety of all kind of moſt wholeſome and dainty fiſhes: ſo that it may ſeeme ſtrange and diſputable, and hard to determine, which of his Maieſties Dominions of the Land or Seas, bee richeſt. My ſelfe being the moſt vnworthieſt of all,

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all, in that I am no Sholler, but borne a Fishermans sonne by the Sea-side, and spending my youthfull time at Sea about Fisher affaires, whereby now I am more skilfull in Nets, Lines, and Hookes, then in Rethoricke, Logicke, or learned bookes: yet in those fewe which I haue read, besides the instinct of nature, which maketh me to know that euery one should endeuour himselfe the best he is able to be beneficiall & profitable to the Kingdome & Common-wealth wherein hee is borne, which was a forceable motiue to incite me to thinke of this present discourse, the penning whereof was thus occasioned.

It was my fortune, some two yeares past, to bee sent for into the company of one Maister *Iohn Keymar*, who is a man very well deseruing of his Country, and hee knowing me to haue experience in Fisher affaires, demanded of me the charge both of Busses and Line-boates, after the Hollanders fashion, and shewed vnto mee some few notes that hee had gathered and gotten from other men of my trade, which hee seemed greatly to esteeme of: for that himselfe was altogether vnexperimented in such busi-

neſſe, and further, I deliuered to him certaine principall notes which hee ſeemed greatly to eſteeme; for that hee ſaid that hee did mind to ſhew them vnto the right Honourable Counſell, whereupon I entred into the cogitation of writing this true relation out of my owne experience and knowledge, touching the Ineſtimable ſummes of money taken yearely for fiſh and herrings out of his Maieſties Seas by ſtrangers, whereby they haue not onely maintained their warres many yeares againſt the Spaniard, both by Land & Sea, he being one of the great Monarkes of the world, and at length, they haue not onely wearied him in the wars, and brought him to good termes & reaſonable compoſition; but alſo it is moſt apparant notwithſtanding the huge charge of their warres ſo long continued, which would haue made any other Nation poore and beggarly, they to the contrary are growne exceeding rich and ſtrong in fortified Townes and beautifull Buildings, in plenty of money and gold, in trade and trafficke with all other Nations, and haue ſo increaſed and multiplied their ſhipping and Marriners, that all other Nations and Countries in the world doe

admire

admire them.

Moreouer, whereas one Hauen in one of their Townes did in former times containe their ſhips and ſhipping with infinite coſt, now they haue cut out two Hauens more to a Towne, and at this preſent, are all three Hauens ſcarce ſufficient with roome enough to containe their Ships and ſhipping, and by reaſon of their induſtrious Fiſher-trade, not one of their people are idle, nor none ſeene to begge amongſt them, except they bee ſome of our owne Engliſh Nation.

And what their chiefeſt trade is, or their principall gold-mine, is well knowne to all Merchants that haue vſed thoſe parts, and to my ſelfe and all Fiſhermen; namely that his Maiſties Seas is their chiefeſt, principall, and onely rich Treaſury, whereby they haue ſo long time maintained their warres, and haue ſo greatly proſpered, and enriched themſelues.

If that their little Countrey of the vnited Prouinces can doe this, as it is moſt manifeſt before our eyes they do, then what may we his Maieſties Subiects doe, if this trade of fiſhing

were once erected among vs, wee hauing in our own Countries ſufficient ſtore of all neceſſaries to accompliſh the like buſineſſe. For the Hollanders haue nothing growing in their owne land for that buſineſſe, but they are compelled to fetch all their wood, tymber, and planke, wherwith they build, & make all their Ships of, out of diuers Countries, and their iron out of other places, their Hempe & Cordige out of the Eaſterne Countries, their Hoopes and Barrellboords out of Norway & Sprucia, their breadcorne out of Poland, & Eaſt parts, their Mault, Barley and beſt double drinke from England, & alſo all their fiſh and chiefeſt wealth out of his Maieſties Seas.

The which they doe tranſport vnto the foreſaid Countries, & returne for the procedue of fiſh and herrings, the fore-named commodities, whereby their Ships and Marriners are ſet on worke, and continually multiplied, and into their countries is plentifull ſtore of money and gold daily brought, onely for the ſailes of fiſh and herrings.

And their Countrey being, as it were, a ſmall plot of ground in compariſon of great Brittaine,

Brittaine; for two of his Maiesties Counties, Suffolke and Norfolke, do equall, if not exceed, in spaciousnesse, all their Prouinces, & yet it is manifest, that for shipping and sea faring men, all England, Scotland, France and Spaine, for quantity of shipping and Fisher men cannot make so great a number.

Howsoeuer this may seeme strange vnto many that doe not know it, yet doe I assure my selfe, that a great number besides my selfe know I affirme nothing herein but the truth.

Wherefore seeing the great benefite that this busines by the Busses, bonaduentures, or Fisher-ships, by erecting of this profitable and new trade, which will bring plenty vnto his Maiesties kingdomes, and be for the generall good of the Common-wealth, in setting of many thousands of poore people on worke, which now know not how to liue, and also for the increasing of shippes and Fisher-men, which shall bee imployed about the taking of fish & herrings out of his Maiesties own streames, as also for the imploying of ships, and increasing of Marriners, for the strengthening of the Kingdome against all forraigne inuasions, and

for

for the enriching of Merchants with tranſportation of Fiſh and Herrings into other Countries; and alſo for the bringing in of gold, and money, which now is growne but ſcarce, by reaſon that the Dutch and Hollanders haue ſo long time beene ſuffered to carry away our money and beſt gold for fiſh and Herrings, taken out of his Maieſties owne ſtreames, which his Maieſties owne Subiects do want (and ſtill are like to doe) if that they bee not forbidden for bringing vs of Fiſh and Herrings : And this worthy Common-wealthes buſineſſe of Buſſes foſtered and furthered by his Maieſties Honorable Councell, and the Worſhipfull and wealthy ſubiects, by putting too of their helping Aduentures now at the firſt: for that thoſe that bee now the Fiſher-men, of themſelues, be not able to beginne.

Thoſe poore Boates and ſorry Nets that our Fiſhermen of England now haue, are all their chiefeſt wealthes, but were their ability better, they would ſoone be imploying themſelues: for that it is certaine that all the Fiſher-men of England do reioyce now at the very name and newes of building of Buſſes, with a moſt ioyfull applaud

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applaud, praying to God to further it for: what great profite and pleasure it will bring they doe well vnderstand, and I will hereafter declare.

Firſt, I ſhall not neede to proue that it is lawfull for vs that bee his Maieſties owne Subiects to take with all dilligence the bleſſings that Almighty God doe yeerely ſend vnto vs at their due times and ſeaſons, and which doe offer themſelues freely and aboundantly to vs, in our owne Seas and nigh our owne ſhores.

Secondly, to proue that it is feacible for vs: for what can bee more plaine then that we ſee daily done before our eyes by the Hollanders, that haue nothing that they vſe growing in their owne Land, but are conſtrained to fetch all out of other Countries; whereas we haue all things that ſhall bee vſed about that buſineſſe growing at home in our owne Land, Pitch and Tarre onely excepted.

Thirdly, to proue it will bee profitable, no man need to doubt, for that we ſee the Hollanders haue long maintained their warres, and are neuertheleſſe growne exceeding rich, which are

things to be admired, in ſo much that themſelues do call it, their *Chiefeſt Trade, and principall Gold-mine, whereby many thouſands of their people of Trades and Occupations, bee ſet on worke, well maintained, and do proſper*: Theſe be the Hollanders owne words in a Dutch Proclamation, and tranſlated into Engliſh, and the coppy of that Proclamation is here annexed vnto the end of my booke.

And ſhall wee neglect ſo great bleſſings: O ſlothfull England and careleſſe Countrimen, Looke but on theſe fellowes that wee call the plumpe Hollanders, behold their dilligence in fiſhing, and our owne careleſſe negligence.

In the midſt of the month of May doth the Induſtrious Hollanders beginne to make ready their Buſſes and Fiſher-fleetes, and by the firſt of their Iune, are they yeerly ready, and ſeene to ſaile out of the *Maſe*, the *Teſſell*, and the *Vly*, a thouſand Saile together for to catch Herrings in the North-ſeas.

Sixe hundred of theſe Fiſher-ſhips, and more, bee great Buſſes ſome fixe ſcore Tunnes, moſt of them bee a hundreth Tunnes and the reſt three ſcore and fifty Tunnes, the biggeſt of them

them hauing foure and twenty men, ſome twenty men, and ſome eighteene and ſixteene men a peece, ſo that their cannot bee in this Fleete of people no leſſe then twenty thouſand Sailors.

Theſe hauing with them bread, butter, and Holland-cheeſe, for their prouiſion, do daily ly get their other diet out of his Maieſties Seas, beſides the lading of this Fleete three times a peece, commonly before S. *Andrew* with Herrings, which being ſold by them, but at the rate of ten pound the Laſt, amounteth vnto much more then the ſumme of one million of pounds Sterling onely by this Fleete of Buſſes yearely: no King vpon the earth did yet euer ſee ſuch a Fleete of his owne Subiects at any time, and yet this Fleete is there, and then, yearely to bee ſeene: A moſt worthy ſight it were, if they were my owne Country-men, yet haue I taken pleaſure in being amongſt them, to behold the neatneſſe of their ſhips and Fiſher-men, how euery man knoweth his owne place, and all labouring merily together, whereby the pooreſt ſort of themſelues, their wiues, and children be well maintained, & no want ſeene amongſt thē.

And thus North-west and by North hence along they steere, then being the very heart of Summer, and the very yoalke of all the yeare, sayling vntill they do come vnto the Ile of Shotland, which is his Maiesties Dominions, and with these gallant Fleete of Busses, there haue bene seene twenty, thirty, and forty ships of warre to waft and gaurd them from being pillaged and taken by their enemies, and Dunkirkars: but now the warres be ended, they do saue that great charge, for they haue not now aboue foure or sixe to looke vnto them for being spoyled by Rouers and Pirates.

Shotland is the greatest Ile of all the Orcades, & lyeth in the heighth of 60. degrees of Northerly latitude.

Now if that it happen that they haue so good a winde to be at Shotland before the 14. day of their Iune, as most commonly they haue, then do they put all into Shotland, nigh Swinborne-head, into a Sownd called Braceies Sownd, and there they frolicke it on Land, vntill that they haue sucked out all the marrow of the Mault, and good Scotsh-ale, which is the best liquor that the Iland doth affoord: but the 14. day of Iune being once come, then away all of them go, for that is the first day, by their owne Law, before which time they must not lay a Net, for vntill

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vntill then the Herrings be not in ſeaſon, nor fit to be taken to be ſalted.

From this place, being nigh two hundred leagues from Yermouth, do they now firſt begin to fiſh, & they do neuer leaue the Skoales of Herrings, but come along amongſt them, following the Herrings as they do come, fiue hundred miles in length, and lading their ſhips twice or thrice, before they come to Yermouth, with the principall and beſt Herrings, and ſending them away by the Marchant ſhips that cõmeth vnto them, that bringeth them victuals, barrels, and more ſalt, and Nets if that they do need any, the which Ships that buyeth their herrings, they do call Herring-yagers, and theſe Yagers carry them & ſell them in the Eaſt Countries, ſome to *Reuell*, and to *Rie*, and ſome ſo far as the *Narue*, and *Ruſſey*, *Stockhollume* in *Sweathen*, *Quinſbrough*, *Danſke* and *Eluinge*, and all *Poland*, *Sprucia*, and *Pomerland*, *Letto*, *Burnt-hollume*, *Stateen*, *Lubicke* and *Youtland*, and *Denmarke*.

Returning Hemp, Flax, Cordige, Cables, and Iron, Corne, Sope-aſhes, Wax, Weinſkot, Clapholt, Pitch, Tarre, Maſtes, and Spruce-deales, & Hoopes, and Barrel-boords, & plenty of ſiluer

and gold onely for their procedue of Herrings.

Now beſides this great Fleete of the Buſſes the Hollanders haue a huge number more of ſmaller Burthen onely for to take Herrings alſo, and theſe be of the Burthen, from fifty Tunnes vnto thirty Tunnes, and twenty tunnes; the greateſt of them hauing twelue men a peece, and the ſmalleſt eight and nine men a peece, and theſe are Veſſels of diuers faſhions, and not like vnto the Buſſes, yet go they onely for Herrings in the ſeaſon, and they bee called ſome of them, Sword-pinks, Flat-bottomes, Holland-toads, Crabskuits, and Yeuers, and all theſe, or the moſt part doe goe to Shot-land, but theſe haue no Yagers come vnto them but they go themſelues home when they be laden, or elſe vnto the beſt Market: There haue bene ſeene and numbred of Buſſes, and theſe, in braces ſound, and going out to Sea, and at Sea in ſight, at one time, two thouſand Sailes beſides them that were at Sea without ſight, which could not be numbred.

It is *Bartholmew-tide* yearely before that they be come from Shotland, with the Herrings ſo high

high as Yermouth, and all those Herrings that they doe catch in Yermouth Seas from *Bartholmew-tide* vntill S. *Andrew* the worst that be the roope-sicke Herrings that will not serue to make barreld Herrings by their owne Law, they must not bring home into Holland, wherefore they doe sell them for ready money, or gold, vnto the Yermouth-men, that be no Fisher-men but Merchants and Ingrosers of great quantities of Herrings, if that by any meanes they can get them, so that the Hollanders be very welcome guests vnto the Yermothian Herring-buyers, and the Hollanders doe call them their Hostes, and they doe yearely carry away from Yermouth many a thousand pound, as it is wel known but; these Hollanders with their ladings of the best, which they make their best brand herrings to serue for Lenton store, they send some for *Burdeaux*, some for *Rochell*, *Nantes*, *Morliax*, and *S. Mallaus*, *Cane* in *Normandy*, *Roan*, *Paris*, *Ameance*, and all *Pickardy*, and *Callice*, and they doe returne from these places, Wines, Salt, Fethers, Rossin, Woad, Normandy Canuise, and Dowlas cloth, and money, and French Crownes, but out of all the Arch-dukes

Countries

Countries they returne nothing from thence but ready mony, in my owne knowledge, and their ready payment was all double Iacobuſes, Engliſh twenty ſhilling peeces. I haue ſeene more there in one day: then euer I did in London at any time, for at Oſtend, Newport, and Dunkirke, where and when the Holland pinks commeth in, there daily the Merchants, that be but women, but not ſuch women as the fiſh-wiues of Billinſgate, for theſe Netherland women do lade away many waggons with freſh fiſh daily, ſome for *Bridges*, and ſome for *Bruſſels*, *Iper*, *Dixmew*, and *Riſſels*, and at *Saſſe*, by *Gant*. I haue ſeene theſe women Merchants haue had their Apornes full of nothing but Engliſh Iacobuſes, to make all their payment of, and ſuch heapes and budget-fuls in the counting-houſes of the fiſh-brokers, which made me much to wonder how they ſhould come by them; and alſo I know that Capons are not ſo deerely ſold by the Poulters in Gratious Streete in London, as freſh fiſh is ſold by the Hollanders, in all thoſe Romaine Catholicke, and Papiſticall Countries.

I haue ſeene a ſmall Haddocke ſold there for two ſhillings ſixe pence: and a Turbut for a Iacobus.

And whereas I haue made but a true rela-

tion

About three leagues to the Northward is Sowld-hauen, and in the Townes of *Sowld, donwich,* and *Walderſwicke* be a very good breed of Fiſhermen, and there is belonging vnto thoſe three Townes, of North-ſea Boates ſome 20. Saile, and of Iſland Barkes ſome fifty Saile, which yearely they ſend for Cod and Lings to Iſland: This Towne of Sowld, of a Sea-coaſt Towne, is the moſt beneficiall vnto his Maieſty of all the Townes in England, by reaſon all their trade is vnto Iſland for Lings, and his Maieſties Seriant Cater hath yearely gratis, out of euery Ship and Barke, one hundreth of the choyſeſt and faireſt Lings, which be worth more then ten pound the hundred, and they call them Compoſition fiſh: But theſe men of this place, are greatly hindred, and in a manner vndone, by reaſon of their Hauen is ſo bad, and in a manner often ſtopped vp with Beach and Chingle ſtone, that the winde and the tide and the Sea do beate thether, ſo that many time, in the ſeaſon, when they be ready to go to Sea, they can not get out when time is to go to Sea, neither can they get in when they returne from Sea, but oftentimes do caſt away

Donwich in ancient times, hath bene the ſeate of the Kings of the East Angles, but now all ruined.

My father liued in this Towne, vntill hee was 98. yeares of age, and gaue theſe Compoſition Lings ſeuenty yeeres, vnto foure Princes, *viz.* K. *Edward*, Q. *Mary*, Q. *Elizabeth*, and vntill the ſixt yeare of the raigne of our moſt gratious Soueraigne, which cometh to much more then one thouſand pound, for one man of that Towne.

their goods and themſelues: This Hauen if that it had but a South peire built of Timber, would be a far better Hauen then Yermouth Hauen, with one quarter of the coſt that hath bene beſtowed on Yermouth Hauen, they be now ſuiters vnto his Maieſtie, God grant they may ſpeed, for it is pittifull the trouble and damage, that all the men of theſe three Townes do daily ſuſtaine by their naughty Harbour.

To the North-ward of Sowld-hauen, three leagues is *Kirkley* and *Layeſtof* decayed Townes, they haue ſixe or ſeuen North-ſea Boates, but them of *Layeſtof* make benefite yearely of buying of Herrings of the Hollanders, for likewiſe theſe Hollanders be Hoſted with the Layeſtof men, as they be with the Yermothians.

In all his Maieſties Kingdomes not any Towne comparable vnto it for braue buildings.

To the North-ward 2. leagues is the Towne of great Yermouth, very beautifully builded, vpon a very pleaſant and ſandy plaine of three mile in length, this Towne is a place of great reſort of all the Herring fiſhermen of England, for thether do reſort all the Fiſhermen of the Cinque Ports, and all the reſt of the Weſt Countrimen of England, as far as Burport and Lime

Lime in Dorcetſhire, and thoſe Herrings that they do take they do not barrell, becauſe their Boates be but ſmall things, but they ſell all vnto the Yermouth herring-buyers for ready mony, and alſo the Fiſhermen of the North-countries beyond Scarborough and Robin-hoods bay and ſome as far as the Biſhopricke of Durham do thether reſort yearely, in poore little Boates called fiue men Cobbles, & all the Herrings that they do take they do ſell freſh vnto the Yermouth-men to make red Herrings. Alſo to Yermouth doth daily come in to the Hauen, vp to the Key, all or the moſt part of the great Fleet of Hollanders, which before I made relation of, that go in the *Swoard-pinks*, *Holland-toads*, *Crab-ſkuits*, *Walnut-ſhels*, and great and ſmall *Yeuers*, 100. and 200. Saile at one time together, and all their Herings that they do bring in, they do ſell them all for readdy mony to the Yermouth men: And alſo the French men of *Pickardy* * ſome hundred Saile of them at a time do come thither, and all, the herrings they catch they ſell freſh vnto theſe herring-mongers of Yermouth for ready gold; ſo that it amounteth vnto a great ſum of mony, that the Hollanders & Frenchmē do cary away,

* And *Normandy*.

from Yermouth, yearely, into Holland and France, which mony doth neuer come againe into England: This Towne is very well gouerned by wise and ciuell Magistrates, and good orders carefully obserued for the mainetenance of their Hauen and Corporation, and this Towne, by reason of the situation, and the frech Riuers that belongeth to it: one vp to the Citty of Norwich, and another that runneth far vp into Suffolke, a butter and cheese country, about *Bunga* and *Betkels*; and a third that runneth far vp into Flegg, a Corne Country, by reason whereof this Towne of Yermouth is alwaies well serued with all kind of prouision at all times plentifully, at good and cheape rates, whereby they of the Towne do relieue the strangers, and also do benefite themselues: To this Towne belongeth some twenty Island Barkes, which yearely they do send for Cods and Lings, and some hundreth and fifty Saile of North-sea boates, they make a shift to liue, but if that they had the vse of Busses, and also barreld fish, they would excell all England and Holland, for they be the onely fishermen for North-seas, and also the best for the handling

ling of their fish that be in all this land.

The Herring buyer of Yermouth doth profite more then doth the Fishermen of Yermouth, by reason of the resort of the Hollanders, for that they are suffered to sell all their roope-sicke Herrings at Yermouth, to the Merchants there, and also the barreld fish that the Flemmings do bring in Winter to London, do also gale them, but for that our Fishermen may, if they please, make barreld fish themselues, and therefore I will not mone them.

Ipswich, Linne, and Hull.

The Merchant herring-buyer of Yermouth that hath a stocke of his owne, so long as hee can make his gaines so certaine with buying of Roope-sicke herrings of the Hollanders, will neuer lay out his mony to build or set forth Busses, and the Fisher-men be now so poore, by reason that they onely do beare the whole charge of that costly Hauen; the Merchant herring-buyers being not at any charge thereof, but all that great cost commeth out of the Fishermens labours, for the maintenance of that wodden Hauen, which amounteth to some fiue hundred pound a yeare, and some yeares more: so that though they be willing, yet there

Yermouth Hauen is the onely refuge, in distresse of whether, for all the Fishermen of the Cinque ports, and all other that doe fish in those seas, and it is built all of timber, against the violence of the maine sea: It is now in great danger to come to ruine, if they haue not help in time.

ability will not ſuffer them to do it, neither can they forbeare their mony for to aduenture their herrings into the Eaſt Countries where the beſt ſailes alwaies be.

To the North-wards of Yermonth eight leagues, are the Townes of Blakney and Wels, good Harbours and fit for Buſſes, and they haue good ſtore of fiſhermen, and theſe townes haue ſome twenty Saile of Barkes, that they do yeerely ſend vnto Iſland; but theſe Townes be greatly decaied, to that they haue bene in the times paſſed, the which places, if that they had but 20. Buſſes belonging to them, would ſoone grow rich Townes in ſhort time.

Then is there Lin a propper gallant Towne for Sea-faring men, and for men for Iſland; this is a rich Towne, and they haue ſome twenty Saile of Iſland ſhips, that they yearely ſend for Cods and Lings, and I am in hope to ſee them fall to the vſe of Buſſes as ſoone as any men.

To the Northward is Boſton, a propper Towne, and like vnto Holland ſoyle for low grounds and ſands comming in, but yet there is but few Fiſhermen, but it is a moſt fit place

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for Buſſes, if that they had but once the taſte of them they would ſoone finde good liking.

Next to Boſton ſome 20. leagues to the Northward, is the great riuer of Humber, wherein there is Hull, a very proper Towne of Saylors and Shipping, but there be but few fiſhermen but it is a moſt conuenient place for to aduenture Buſſes.

There is alſo Grimſbey, Paul, and Pattrington: in all theſe places now there is great ſtore of poore and idle people, that know not how to liue, and the moſt of all theſe places be decayed, and the beſt of them all grow worſe and worſe, which with the vſe of Buſſes would ſoone grow rich Merchant-townes as is in Holland, for to theſe places would be tranſported out of the Eaſt-lands all manner of commodities, for the vſe of Buſſes, and houſes, and worke-yards erected for Coopers, and Rope-makers, & great numbers of Netmakers, and with the recourſe of the Ships that ſhall bring ſalt and other commodities, & ſhips that ſhall lade away their Herrings and Fiſh, theſe places will ſoone become populous, and mony ſtirring plentifull in theſe places returned

for

for the procedue of fiſh and Herrings which places now bee exceeding poore and beggarly.

In all theſe fiſher Townes that I haue before named, as *Colcheſter, Harwich, Orford, Alborough, Donwich, Waiderſwicke, Sowld, Yermouth, Blackney, wels, Lin, Boſton,* and *Hul*: Theſe be all the chiefeſt Townes, and all that vſeth the North-ſeas in Summer and all theſe Townes it is well knowne be ruinated.

In all theſe Townes I know to be o--o Iſland Barkes, and o--o North-ſea Boates, and all theſe Fiſhermen hauing o--o men a peece, amounteth to the ſumme of o--o. But admit that there is in all the Weſt Country of England of Fiſher-boats, tag and rag, that bringeth home all freſh fiſh, which ſeldome or neuer vſeth any ſalt: ſay that they haue o--o men a peece, which make the ſumme of o--o in all England; but in all theſe I haue not reckoned the Fiſhermen, Mackrel-catchers, nor the Cobble-men of the North-country, which hauing o--o men a peece, commeth to ſo many men in all England.

I craue pardon, for that I omit the particular numbers and totall ſumme, which I could heere ſet downe, if I were commanded.

But ſo many in all England, and I haue truely ſhewed

ſhewed before, that the Hollander hath in one Fleete of Buſſes twenty thouſand Fiſhermen, beſides all them that goeth in the Sword-pinks, Flat-bottomes, Carbi kuits, Walnut-ſhels, and great Yeuers, wherein there is not leſſe then 12000. more, and all theſe are onely for to catch Herrings in the North-ſeas.

Beſides all them that goeth in the Flye-boates, for Shotland Lings, and the Pinks for barreld fiſh, and Trammell Boates, which commeth vnto 5000. more.

So that it is moſt true, that as they haue the ſumme of o--o Fiſhermen more then their is in all this Land: and by reaſon of there Buſſes, and Pinks, and Fiſhermen that ſet their Merchant Ships on worke, as that they haue o--o Fiſhermen more then we haue, ſo haue they o--o and o--o ſhips & Marriners more then we.

Now in our ſumme of o--o Fiſhermen, let vs ſee what vent haue we for our fiſh into other Countries, and what commodites and coine is brought into this Kingdome, and what Ships are ſet on worke by them, whereby Marriners are bred, or imployed, not one: It's pittifull.

For when our Fiſhermen commeth home, the firſt voyage from the North-ſeas, they goe either to London, Ipſwich, Yermouth, Lin, Hull, or Scarbrough, and there they do ſell at good rates, the firſt voyage, but the ſecond voyage, becauſe that they which be now the Fiſhermen haue not yet the right vſe of making of barreld fiſh wherewith they might ſerue France, as doth the Hollanders, they be now conſtrained to ſell in England, for that it is ſtaple fiſh, and not being barreld the French will not buy it.

But if that our Fiſhermen had but once the vſe of Pinks and Line-boats, and barreld fiſh, then they might ſerue France as well as the Hollanders, which by this new trade of Buſſes being once erected, and Pinks, and Line-boats, after the Holland manner, there will be Fiſhermen enow to manage the Pinks for barreld fiſh, from Nouember vnto the beginning of May, onely the moſt part of thoſe men that ſhallbe maintained by the Buſſes, for that when the Buſſes do leaue worke, in the Winter their men ſhall haue employment, by the Pinks, for barreld fiſh, which men, now, do little or nothing,

thing, for this laſt Winter at Yermouth, there was three hundreth Idle men that could get nothing to do, liuing very poore for lacke of imployment, which moſt gladly would haue gone to ſea in Pinks, if there had bene any for them to go in.

And whereas I before ſaid, that there was not one Ship ſet on work by our Fiſhermen, there may be obiected againſt me this.

That there doth euery yeare commonly lade at Yermouth 4. or 5. London Ships for the Streights, which is ſometimes true, & the Yermouth men themſelues do yearely ſend 2. or 3. Ships to *Bourdeaux*, and 2. or 3. Boates laden with herrings to *Roan*, or to *Nance*, or *S. Mallaus*, whereby there is returned, Salt, Wines, Normandy Canuice, whereby the King hath ſome cuſtome, but there is no mony returned into England for theſe Herrings, which coſt the Yermothians ready gold before that they had them of the Hollanders, and Frenchmen, to lade theſe Ships, and therefore I may boldly ſay not one.

No more Engliſh, but two ſmall Shippes, this yeare laded there.

And this laſt yeare, now, the Hollanders themſelues haue alſo gotten that trade, for there did

Note heere how the Hollanders employ themselues and their Ships, first in taking of the herrings quick, and yet are not content but catch them againe after they bee dead, and doe set both their ships and Marriners on worke, and lye vp a rotting. English ships

did lade twelue Sailes of Holland Ships with red herrings at Yermouth, for *Ciuatauechia*, *Ligorne*, *Genoa*, and *Marsellis*, and *Talone*, most of them being laden by the English Merchants, so that if this be suffered, the English owners of Ships shall haue but small imployment for theirs.

Now to shew truely, what the whole charge of a Busse will be, with all her furniture, as Masts, Sailes, Ankors, Cables, and with all her Fishers implements, and appurtenances, at the first prouided all new, is a great charge, she being betweene 30. or 40. Last, will cost some fiue hundred pound.

By the Grace of God the Ship or Busse will continue twenty yeare with small cost and reparations, but the yearely slite and weare of her tackell, and war-ropes, and Nets will cost some eighty pounds.

And the whole charge for the keeping of her at Sea for the whole Summer, or three voiages, for the filling of a hundred Last of Caske, or Barrels.

100. Laſt of Barrels -- 72.	A hundreth Laſt of
For ſalt 4. months ---- 88.	Barrels, filled and ſold
Beere 4. moneths ---- 42.	at 10. pounds the Laſt
For bread 4. months -- 21.	commeth to one thou-
Baken and Butter ----- 18.	ſand pound.
For peaſe 4. months -- 03.	Herrings 1000.li.
For billet 4. months --03.	The whole charge 335.
For mens wages 4. M. 88.	
335.	gotten.0665.

If any will know all the perticulars of weyes of Salt, or barrels of Beere, or hundreths of Biſkets, I will willingly reſolue them, but here is all the whole charge, and with the moſt.

Heere plainly appeareth that there is gotten 665. pounds in one Summer, whereout if that you do deduct one hundreth pounds for the weare of the Ship, and the reparations of her Nets againſt the next Summer, yet ſtill there is 565. pounds remaining for cleare gaines, by one Buſſe, in one yeare.

And I haue rated the herrings but at 10. pound the Laſt, which is with the leaſt, for they bee commonly ſold by the Hollanders at *Danſke*, for 15. and 20. pounds the Laſt.

The Hollanders do make the profite of their Buſſes ſo certaine, that they do lay out their owne childrens mony, giuen them by their deceaſed friends in aduenturing in the Buſſes, and alſo there is in Holland a Treaſury for Orphants, opened and layd out in aduenturing in the Buſſes.

The Hollanders do make both a profitable,

and a pleasant Trade of this Summer fishing, for there was one of them, that hauing a gallant great new Busse of his owne, and he hauing a daughter married vnto one which was his Mate in the Busse, and the owner that was Maister of this Busse did take his wife with him aboord, and his Mate his wife, and so they did set saile for the North-seas, with the two women with them, the mother and the daughter, where hauing a faire wind, and being fishing in the North-seas, they had soone filled their Busse with herrings, and a Herring Yager commeth vnto them, and brings them gold and fresh supplies, and copeth with them, and taketh in their herrings for ready mony and deliuereth them more barrels and salt, and away goeth the Yager for the first Market into Sprucia, and still is the Busse fishing at sea, & soone after againe, was full laden, and boone home, but then another Yager commeth vnto him as did the former, & deliuering them more prouision of barrels and Salt, and ready mony and bid them fare-well, and still lyeth at Sea with the mother and daughter so long and not very long, before they had againe all their

Ready money or Tallyes, which are as bils of exchange to bee paid at first sight.

Barrels

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Barrels full, and then they ſailed home into Holland, with the two women, and the Buſſe laden with Herrings, and a thouſand pounds of ready mony.

If that any man ſhould make any queſtion of the truth of this, it will be very credibly approued by diuerſe of good credite that be now in the Citty of London.

Now to ſhew the charge of a pinke of eighteene or tweene Laſt, the Pinke being builded new, and all things new vnto her, will not coſt two hundred and ſixty pounds, with all her Lines, Hookes, and all her Fiſher appurtenances.

And 15. Laſt of Barrels will coſt	10.
Fiue weyes of ſalt vpon ſalt	15.
For Beere and Caſke	07.
For bread	03.
For butter	01.
For the Petty tally	01.
For mens wages for 2 mo. M & all toge:	20.
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Fifteene laſt of barreld fiſh at 14. pound, and 8. ſhillings the Laſt, which is but 24. ſhillings the

the barrell amounteth vnto two hundreth and ſixteene pounds, whereout if that you do deduct fifty and ſeuen pounds, for the charge of ſetting her to ſea, their is ſtill reſting one hundreth fifty and eight pounds cleere gaines, by one Pinke, with fifteene Laſt of fiſh for two months.

Wherefore, ſeeing the profite ſo plainely, and by the grace of God ſo certaine, both by the Buſſes and Line-boates, whereby the Hollanders haue ſo long gained by, Let all Noble Worſhipfull, and wealthy Subiects, put too their aduenturing and helping hands, for the ſpeedy lanching, and floating forward of this great good Common-wealth buſineſſe, for the ſtrengthening of his Maieſties Dominions, with two principall pillars, which is, with plenty of coine brought in for fiſh, and herrings from other Nations, and alſo for the increaſing of Marriners againſt all forraigne Inuaſions, and alſo for the bettering of Trades and Occupations, and ſetting of thouſands of poore and idle people on worke, which now know not how to liue, which by this Trade of the Buſſes ſhall be imployed, as daily we ſee is done before

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fore our eyes by the Hollanders. And as alwaies it hath bene ſeene, that thoſe that be now the Fiſhermen of England, haue bene alwaies found to be ſufficient to ſerue his Maieſties ſhips in former time, when their haue bene employment, which fellowes, by this new trade of building, and ſetting forth Buſſes will be greatly multiplyed and encreaſed in this Land; which fellowes, as we ſee the Hollanders, being well-fed in Fiſher affaires, and ſtrong and luſtier then the Sailors that vſe the long Southerne voyages, that ſometimes are greatly ſurfeited, and hunger-pined. But theſe couragious, yong, luſty, fed-ſtrong yonkers, that ſhall qe bred in the Buſſes, when his Maieſty ſhall haue haue occaſion for their ſeruice in warre, againſt the enemy, will be fellowes for the nonce, and will ſhew themſelues right Engliſh, and will put more ſtrength to an Iron Crow, at a peece of great Ordinance in trauerſing of a Cannon, or Culuering, with the direction of the experimented Maiſter Gunner, then two or three of the fore-named ſurfeited Sailors, and in diſtreſſe of winde growne ſea, and fowle Winters weather, for flying for-

word to their labour, for pulling in a topſaile, or a ſpret-ſaile, or ſhaking of a bonnet in a dark night, for wet and cold can not make them ſhrinke nor ſtaine, that the North-ſeas, and the Buſſes, and Pinks haue dyed in graine, for ſuch purpoſes.

And whoſoeuer ſhall go to Sea, for Captaine to command in Marſhall affaires, or take charge for Maiſter in trade of Merchandize, (as in times paſt I haue done both) will make choice of theſe fellowes, for I haue ſeene their reſolution, in the face of their enemy, when they haue bene *legramenta*, and frolicke, and as forward as about their ordinary labours, or buſineſſe.

It is not vnknowne, that this laſt yeare there was a generall preſſe along the Coaſt of *England*, frō *Hull* in *Yorkeſhire* vnto S *Michaels* Mount in Corne-wall, onely for Sailors, to furniſh but 7. Shippes, for the wafting ouer of the Count *Pallatine*, and his moſt Noble Princes, but 28. leagues.

And when his Maieſty ſhall haue occaſion and imployment for the furniſhing of his Nauy there will be no want of Maiſters, Pilots, Commanders, and ſufficient directors of a courſe, and keeping of Computation, but now there is a pittifull want of ſufficient good men to do the offices and labours before ſpoken of, all which, theſe men of the Buſſes and Pinks, will worthily ſupply.

And to the Art of Sayling they may happily

pily attaine, for hitherto it hath beene commonly ſeene, that thoſe men, that haue beene brought vp, in their youth, in Fiſhery, haue deſerued as well as any in the land for artificiall Sayling; for at this time is practiſed all the proiections of Circular and Mathematicall skales and Arithmeticall ſayling, by diuers of the yong men of the Sea-coaſt Townes, euen as commonly amongſt them as amongſt the Theamſers.

Beſides all the Hollanders before ſpoken of, the Frenchmen of Pickardy haue alſo a hundred Saile of Fiſhermen, onely for Herrings, on his Maieſties Seas euery yeare, in the Summer ſeaſon, and they bee almoſt like vnto the Buſſes, but they haue not any Yagers that commeth vnto them, but they do lade themſelues, and returne home twice euery yeare, and finde great profite by their making but of two voyages euery Summer ſeaſon.

Some of theſe be 3. and 4. ſcore Tunnes the burthen.

And it is much to bee lamented, that wee hauing ſuch a plentifull Countrey, and ſuch ſtore of able and idle people, that not one of his Maieſties Subiects, are there to

The Hollanders do yearely take so many, as they do make more then two millions of pound Sterling. And wee his Maiesties Subiects doe take no more then doe baite our hookes.

be seene all the whole Summer, to fish, or to take one Herring: But onely the North-sea boats of the Sea-coast Townes, that goeth to take Cods, they do take so many as they do need to baite their hookes and no more.

We are daily skorned by these Hollands, for being so negligent of our profite, and careleſſe of our fishing, and they do daily floute vs that be the poore Fishermen of England, to our faces at Sea, calling to vs and saying, *Ya Englisch, ya zall, or cud scoue dragien*, which in English is this: Yon English, we will make you glad for to weare our old shoes.

And likewise the French-men they say we are apish, for that we do still imitate them in all needlesse and fantasticall iagges and fashions, as it is most true indeed, for that they haue no fashion amongst them in apparell, nor Lace, Points, Gloues, Hilts, nor Garters, euen from the spangled Shoe-lachet, vnto the spangled Hat, and Hat-band, be it neuer so idle, and costly, but after that we do once get it, it is far bettered by our Nation.

Wherefore, seeing that we can excell all other Nations, wastfully, to spend mony, let

Vs

Vs, in one thing, learne of other Nations, to get thousands out of his Maiesties Sea, and to make a generall profite of the benefites that Almighty God doth yearely send vnto vs, in far more greater aboundance then the fruite of our trees, which although they be more chargeable in the gathering together, yet is the profite far more greater, vnto this Kingdome, and Common wealth of all his Maiesties Subiects, increasing the wealth of the aduenturers; as also for the enriching of Merchants, and maintaining of Trades Occupations, and employing of Ships, and encreasing of Marriners, which now do but little or nothing: as also for the setting of poore and idle people on worke, which now know not how to liue, and to teach many a tall fellow to know the propper names of the ropes, in a ship, and to hale the bowline that now for lacke of employment many such, by the inconuenience of idle liuing, are compelled to end their daies, with a rope by an vntimely death, which by the employment of the Busses might be well auoyded, and they in time become right honest seruiceable and trusty Subiects.

The Sailors Prouerbe: The Sea and the Gallowes refuse none.

Here since my booke came to the Presse, I haue bene credibly certified, by * men of good worth (being Fishmongers) that since Christmas last, vnto this day, there hath bene paid to the Hollanders, here in London, onely for barreld fish, and Holland Lings, the summe of twelue thousand pound.

Mr. *William Welling*, M. *Stephen Topley*, and diuers others of the Company of Fishmongers.

And last of all, if that there be any of the Worshipfull Aduenturers, that would haue any directions for the building of these Busses, or Fisher ships, because I know that the Ship-carpenters of England, be not yet skilfull in this matter, wherefore if that any shall bee pleased to repaire to me, I will bee willing to giue them directions, and plaine proiections, and Geometricall demonstrations for the right building of them, both for length, bredth, and depth, and also for their mould vnder water, and also for the contriuing of their roomes, and the laying of their geare, *according to the Hollanders fashion, any man shall heare of me at M. *Nathaniel Butters*, a Stationers Shop at Saint Austens gate in Paules Church-yard: Farewell this 18. of February.

And for proiding of their Cordige, and Nets, after the most neateſt & cheapeſt rates.

FINIS.

The States Proclamation, Translated out of Dutch.

THe States generall of the United Prouinces of the low Countries vnto all those that shall see or heare these presents greeting, Wee let to weet that whereas it is well knowne, that the great fishing, and catching of herrings is the chiefest Trade, and principall Gold-mine of these United Countries, whereby many thousands of Houlholds, Families, Handi-crafts, Trades and Occupations, are set on worke, well maintained, and prosper; especially the Sailing and Nauigation, as well within, as without these Countries, is kept in great esteemation: Moreouer many Returnes of Money, with the increase of the meanes, commoyes, customes, and Reuenues of these Countries are augmented thereby and prosper, and for asmuch as there is made from time to time many good Orders conseruing the catching, salting, and beneficiall

beneficial vttering of the said Herrings, to the end to preserue and maintaine the said chiefe Trade, in the United Prouinces; which Trade, by diuers encounters, of some that seeke their owne gaine, is enuied, in respect of the great good it bringeth to the United Countries: and Wee are informed that a new deuise is put in practise to the preiudice of the Trade, to transport out of the United Countries, into other Countries, Staues for herring-barrels made heere, and halfe herring barrels, put into other Barrels, and Nets: to crosse the good Orders and Policy here intended to them of these Countres, for the catching, salting, and selling the herings, dressed in other Contries, after the order of these Countries, whereby this chiefe Trade should be decaied here, and the Inhabitants of these Countries damnified, if that we make not prouision, in time against such practises, therefore Wee, after Mature Judgement, and Deliberation haue Forbidden and Interdicted, and by these Presents do forbid and interdict, all, and euery one, as well Home-borne and Inhabitants, as Strangers frequenting these parts, to take vp any herring-barrels, or halfe ones prepared, or any kinde of Nets. in any Ship, Towne, or Hauen, of the vnited Prouinces, to be sent into other Countries, or Places, vpon paine of confiscation of the same, and the Ship also wherein they shall be found, besides a penalty

ty of 200. of Netherlandish siluer Royals, for the first time, and for the second time aboue confiscation of Ship & Goods, & 400. of the said Royals of siluer, and for the third time, aboue confiscation of Ship and goods, and 600. of the said Royals of siluer, & corporal punishment: all which confiscations, and penalties, shall be distributed one third part to the profite of the Plantife, one third part to the poore, and one third part of the Officers, where the said confiscation shall be demanded: and not onely they shall incurre this penalty, which after shall be taken with the deed, but they also, that within one yeare after the deed shall bee conuicted, and that none may pretend ignorance, and that this order may be in all places duely obserued, and the offendors punished accoording to Justice, Wee will and require, our deere and welbeloued Estates, Gouernours, Deputies of the councell, and the Estates of the respectiue Prouinces of Gilderland, and the county of Satfill in Holland, West-Freesland, Zeland, Vtricts, Freesland, Merizel, the Towne of Groyning, and the circumiacent places, and to all Justices and Officers, that they cause to bee published in all places, and proclaimed, where the vsuall Proclamation and Publication is made; We do charge also the chancellors, and Prouinciall councell, and the counsell of the Admiralty, the Aduocatisticall, and the Procurators generall, and all other Officers, Judges,

and Justices of these united Prouinces, and to all generall colonies, Admirals, and Vice-admirals, captaines, Officers, and commanders, to performe, and cause to be performed, this Order and commandement; and to proceed, and cause to be proceeded against the Offendors, without grace, fauour, dissimulation, or composition: because we haue found it necessary, for the good, and benefite, of the said United Prouinces, dated in Hage this 19. of July.

FINIS.

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